

## March 11, 2004 ERTAC Minutes

### Present:

*Big Timber:*

*Glasgow:*

*Plentywood:* Debbie Anderson, Bev Johnson, Kris Mehl, Debbie Sompai

*Colstrip:* Jackson Craig PA-C

*Columbus:* Pam Prideaux-Leak

*Culbertson:* Theresa Moore

*Harlowton:*

*Livingston:*

*Malta:*

*Sidney:*

*Billings:* Dr. Curtis Lee, Richard Mickelson, Dean Angell, Elaine Schuchard, Kim Todd, Tom Danenhowe, Chuck Bratsky, Dr. Denny Maier, Dr. Robert Hurd, Lynn Hilyard

### Minutes

1. Minutes from previous meeting approved, seconded, accepted.

2. Subcommittee Reports:

#### *Education*

- Video conference attendance has fallen off and feedback has been reflective of dissatisfaction with video quality, varying level of content, and relevance of testing. Have contracted through June and will continue through June. Kim to explore State support for advertising. Also considering alternating live with video presentations and using EMS website as center for registration and feedback. Committee members will pursue speakers and topic for upcoming year. Outlying areas with no telemedicine access have requested their needs related to this video conferencing be addressed. Immediate future courses are as follows:
  - April 13<sup>th</sup> will address Alcohol and Methamphetamine Poisonings.
  - May 11<sup>th</sup> will address Lightning Strike injuries
- Pending Critical Access Hospitals, such as Jordan and Circle who are without a physician in house or mandatory nursing education requirements will have training needs. State financial support methods via EMSC (PEPP, PALS, PETLS, ENPC) or HRSA grants/invoices are being explored.

- ATLS taught for the first time in Billings 2/27-28 with positive feedback. Media coverage helped to raise visibility of volunteer efforts on behalf of Montana trauma system.
- EMS Traumatic Brain Injury Instructor courses 4/9/04 in Missoula and 5/6/04 in Billings. Presented by Traumatic Brain Injury Foundation. Free to all participants and teaching materials provided. Contact [plafontaine@state.mt.us](mailto:plafontaine@state.mt.us) for further information (1-406-444-3746 Pam LaFontaine). Contact same for Geriatric EMS Education Instructor course 5/1-2/04 in Miles City. Again, attendance is FREE
- Penny Clifton to attend STN conference in Las Vegas and will find out status of STN course updated CD's that we have been awaiting prior to the first presentation of the course that were supposed to be available this month. Will also collect educational options from subsequent Trauma Critical Care Conference.
- Chair position is NOT open as was erroneously mentioned in agenda

*Prehospital:* no report

*Prevention:* no report

*Quality Improvement:* no report

*State:*

- Trauma registries have been implemented in majority of state facilities. Many registrars/nurses are uncomfortable with computer formats and prefer paper but there is no one on state level to input data from paper. Dr. Maier asked re what are the data points. Kim says they are to be decided at next STAC meeting.
- Kim to spend time with Pennsylvania trauma coordinator who has been using Collector registry for years.
- Dr. Maier asked what are incentive points for small facilities to participate in registry? Answer: It will be a requirement for designation and allows requests for reimbursements for trauma care. It may be possible that participating facilities could seek financial support from state for needed trauma equipment.
- Dr. Hurd wonders if data from patients who are transferred to Billings isn't already inputted into Trauma Center registries such that smaller facilities would not need to input those patients.
- Tom Danenhowe (Injury Prevention Coordinator): EMS education has been moved to Board of Medical Examiners. Next legislature is rumored to include large cuts in positions within DPHHS which may impact EMS and IP. Distributed "tool box" for safety legislation.
- State Trauma Plan is done and has been reviewed by STAC and sections will be sent out to RTACs within next few weeks. Trauma Rules should follow soon, so designations can begin.
- Designation crews are being redesigned to include a trauma coordinator, a trauma or ER physician, and a nurse, with state becoming facilitator and team trainer.

- State is partnering with American Trauma Society to produce visual media specific to trauma
- Kim proposed use of Bioterrorism funds to purchase Montana STARS vehicle, similar to the one out of Calgary, to provide statewide education. She is attempting to set up a meeting between STARS and the flight teams, who would be educators.

### **Case Presentation:**

High-speed MVC (with seat belts and airbag deployment) on New Years Eve rollover in Sidney with two children and mother involved. As many as 5 victims may have been originally involved. One child treated at DBC and the other child and mother treated at SVHC. Sidney is commended for coordination of trauma ABC's, institution of "damage-control surgery" which was life-saving, in this case, and appropriate triage of other victims. Deacare flight nurse Angell coordinated aggressive and creative rewarming and pre-flight stabilization in Sidney that took over 4 hours. The question was raised if the transfer request call was made before the patients arrived in the Sidney ER. There was a discussion of possibilities had there been more patients requiring med-evac: how and who would have been contacted. The need for a Central Medical Dispatcher is considered imperative as are transfer agreements with flight teams who, ordinarily, prefer not to leave their regions. Kim proposes the development of an ad hoc group (flight teams, outlying providers) to design and develop this role. Tom suggested inclusion of state phone providers in any discussion.

*Richard Mickelson:* encouraged more ERTAC participation by outlying members, especially with respect to the review of cases that provide good learning experiences.

Meeting adjourned 1723.